Application No. 08/164,103, filed December 7, 1993, now abandoned, and U.S. Application No. 08/333,576, filed November 2, 1994, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,027,919, on February 22, 2000.

Please substitute the paragraph on page 6, lines 31-32, with the following amended paragraph:

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 is a comparison of the human BMP-12 and human MP52 sequences. The sequence of human BMP-12 is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1. The sequence of MP52 is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3.

Please substitute the paragraphs on page 8, line 11, to page 9, line 7, with the following amended paragraphs:

It is expected that BMP-12, as expressed by mammalian cells such as CHO cells, exists as a heterogeneous population of active species of BMP-12 protein with varying N-termini. It is expected that all active species will contain the amino acid sequence beginning with the cysteine residue at amino acid #3 of SEQ ID NO:2 and continue through at least the cysteine residue at amino acid 103 or until the stop codon after amino acid 104. Other active species contain additional amino acid sequence in the N-terminal direction. As described further herein, the N-termini of active species produced by mammalian cells are expected to begin after the occurrence of a consensus cleavage site, encoding a peptide sequence Arg-X-X-Arg (SEQ ID NO:2,

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

residues -4 to -1). Thus, it is expected that DNA sequences encoding active BMP-12 proteins will have a nucleotide sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence beginning at any of nucleotides #196, 199, 208, 217, 361, 388, 493, 496 or 571 to nucleotide #879 or 882 of SEQ ID NO:1.

The N-terminus of one active species of human BMP-12 has been experimentally determined by expression in E. coli to be as follows: [M]SRXSRKPLHVDF (SEQ ID NO:2, residues 1 to 12), wherein X designates an amino acid residue with no clear signal, which is consistent with a cysteine residue at that location. Thus, it appears that the N-terminus of this species of BMP-12 is at amino acid #1 of SEQ ID NO:1, and a DNA sequence encoding said species of BMP-12 would start at nucleotide #571 of SEQ ID NO:1. The apparent molecular weight of this species of human BMP-12 dimer was determined by SDS-PAGE to be approximately 20-22 kd on a Novex 16% tricine gel. The pI of this molecule is approximately 4.9. The human BMP-12 protein exists as a clear, colorless solution in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The N-terminus of another active species of human BMP-12 has been experimentally determined by expression in E. coli to be [M]TALA (SEQ ID NO:2, residues -25 to -22). The pI of this molecule is approximately 7.0. The apparent molecular weight of this species of human BMP-12 dimer was determined by SDS-PAGE to be approximately 25-27 kd on a Novex 16% tricine gel. The human BMP-12 protein exists as a clear, colorless solution in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Please substitute the paragraph on page 9, line 21, to page 10, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

One example of the BMP-12-related proteins of the present invention is VL-1, presently referred to as BMP-13. The sequence of the full mature BMP-13 sequence and at least a part of the propeptide of BMP-13 is given in SEQ ID NO:25. Like BMP-12, it is expected that BMP-13, as expressed by mammalian cells such as CHO cells, exists as a heterogeneous population of active species of BMP-13 protein with varying N-termini. It is expected that all active species will contain the amino acid sequence beginning with the cysteine residue at amino acid #19 of SEQ ID NO:26 and continue through at least the cysteine residue at amino acid 119 or until the stop codon after amino acid 120. Other active species contain additional amino acid sequence in the N-terminal direction. As described further herein, the N-termini of active species produced by mammalian cells are expected to begin after the occurrence of a consensus cleavage site, encoding a peptide sequence Arg-X-X-Arg (SEQ ID NO:26, residues -4 to -1). Thus, it is expected that DNA sequences encoding active BMP-13 proteins will have a nucleotide sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence beginning at any of nucleotides #410, 458, 602, 605 or 659, to nucleotide #961 or 964 of SEQ ID NO:25.

Please substitute the paragraph on page 16, line 19, to page 17, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Compositions of the present invention may further comprise additional proteins, such as additional members of the TGF-β superfamily of proteins, such as activins. Another aspect of the invention provides pharmaceutical compositions containing a therapeutically effective amount of a tendon/ligament-inducing protein, such as BMP-12 or VL-1, in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle or carrier. These compositions may be used to induce the formation of tendon/ligament-like tissue or other tissue. It is contemplated that such compositions may also be used for tendon and ligament repair, wound healing and other tissue repair, such as skin repair. It is further contemplated that proteins of the invention may increase neuronal survival and therefore be useful in transplantation and treatment of conditions exhibiting a decrease in neuronal survival. Compositions of the invention may further include at least one other therapeutically useful agent, such as the BMP proteins BMP-1, BMP-2, BMP-3, BMP-4, BMP-5, BMP-6 and BMP-7, disclosed for instance in United States Patents 5,108,922; 5,013,649; 5,116,738; 5,106,748; 5,187,076; and 5,141,905; BMP-8, disclosed in PCT publication WO91/18098; BMP-9, disclosed in PCT publication WO93/00432; and BMP-10 or BMP-11, disclosed in co-pending patent applications, serial number 08/061,695, filed on May 12, 1993, now abandoned, a continuation-in-part of which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,637,480, and 08/061,464, filed on May 12, 1993, now abandoned, a continuation-in-part of which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,639,638. The disclosure of the above documents are hereby incorporated by reference herein.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Please substitute the paragraph on page 26, line 29, to page 27, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

Based on the knowledge of other BMP proteins and other proteins within the TGF-β family, it is predicted that the precursor polypeptide would be cleaved at the multibasic sequence Arg-Arg-Gly-Arg (SEQ ID NO:2, residues -4 to -1) in agreement with a proposed consensus proteolytic processing sequence of Arg-X-X-Arg (SEQ ID NO:2, residues -4 to -1). Cleavage of the BMP-12 precursor polypeptide is expected to generate a 104 amino acid mature peptide beginning with the amino acid Ser at position #1 of SEQ ID NO:2. The processing of BMP-12 into the mature form is expected to involve dimerization and removal of the N-terminal region in a manner analogous to the processing of the related protein TGF-β [Gentry et al., Molec & Cell. Biol., 8:4162 (1988); Derynck et al. Nature, 316:701 (1985)].

Please substitute the paragraph on page 36, lines 18-26, with the following amended paragraph:

Based on the knowledge of other BMP proteins and other proteins within the TGF-β family, it is predicted that the precursor polypeptide would be cleaved at the multibasic sequence Arg-Arg-Arg-Arg (SEQ ID NO:26, residues -4 to -1) in agreement with a proposed consensus proteolytic processing sequence of Arg-X-X-Arg (SEQ ID NO:26, residues -4 to -1). Cleavage of the VL-1 precursor polypeptide is expected to generate a 120 amino acid mature peptide beginning with the amino acid Thr at position #1 of SEQ ID NO:26. The processing of VL-1 into the mature form is expected

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com